

Red Oak  
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From Page:  
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*Red Oak to submit video tour for Iowa  
Great Places competition*

**By STEPHEN LEGA**  
**Assistant Editor**

This month, groups from Grant and Red Oak will advocate on behalf of their communities to be named one of Iowa's Great Places. This year, 145 applications were submitted as part of a pilot program by the Governor's Office to promote Iowa.

Three of those 145 applicants will be selected as Great Places this year. The winning places will receive assistance from state officials to complete an improvement project.

Representatives of each of the 145 places will have an hour to pitch their place to a citizens advisory board. Members of that advisory board will visit each of the applicant places between Sept. 12-28.

Red Oak and Grant groups are realistic about their chances of being selected, but both see the process of applying as a benefit to their communities, regardless of the outcome.

The Red Oak group is putting together a video tour of the city. They are also planning to invite community groups to set up displays about their work to illustrate how

Red Oak lives up to the seven areas the committee will evaluate — unique sense of place, engaging experience, rich social fabric, vital economy, pleasing environment, strong foundation and creative culture.

The Red Oak group discussed possibly making the video available for community use when the Great Places evaluations are complete.

Cherie Miner of the Grant Community Preservationists said the Great Places application connecting local communities and state agencies. "It's building bridges," she said.